

# ***Drainage System Maintenance How to Keep Your Head Above Water***

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## ***Drainage systems: How They Work***

- A. Positive Drainage
- A. French Drains
- B. Combination (Overflow Outfalls)

## ***Parts of Drainage System That Require Maintenance***

- A. Regular Inspection
- B. Good Housekeeping Practices
- C. Physical Cleaning/Vacuuming Out of Catch Basins

## ***Pollution Prevention, Do's and Don'ts***

- A. Lists of Do's and Don'ts will be discussed, using slides

### **Do's**

- Inspect regularly and remove litter and debris from open areas and parking lots.
- When sweeping or using a blower to clean open areas, contain and properly dispose of wastes.
- Keep all chemicals away from storm drains.
- Store all chemicals under cover, preferably indoors, and use containment in case of spills.
- Keep all working areas inside and away from catch basins
- Have a spill response plan in place, and practice employee responses to chemical spills.
- Clean all spills by containing and removing from open areas.
- Educate employees on rules against littering or dumping anything into storm drains. Post signs prohibiting this activity in parking lots.
- Include additional drainage with new construction or additions, and consider drainage patterns and increased impervious area when planning new construction.
- For new construction, protect existing inlets from silt or sediment-laden runoff by using hay bales or filter fabric.
- Keep pervious areas green; don't allow parking or other activities to create erosion of sodded areas.
- If you have detention areas, periodically (on a regular basis) remove silt and sediment.

### **Don'ts**

- Hose down driveways or paved areas as a cleaning practice.
- Use leaf blowers as a means of putting materials into storm drains.
- Store or use chemicals or materials which may spill near storm drains.
- Hose down spills of any kind as a way of cleaning them up.
- Store vegetation and grass clippings for scheduled trash pick-up next to or near storm drains.
- Clean equipment or other materials next to or near storm drains
- Allow illicit connections to storm drain systems